

REMARKS

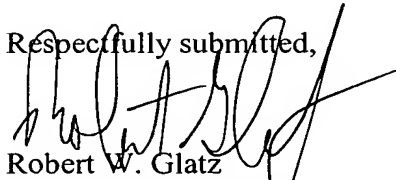
This Election is submitted in response to the Election/Restriction Requirement mailed October 4, 2004. The Election/Restriction Requirement specified that the Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct species:

- (1) Species 1 shown in Figures 6-9;
- (2) Species 2 shown in Figures 11-12;
- (3) Species 3 shown in Figure 13; or
- (4) Species 4 shown in Figure 14.

Applicants hereby provisionally elect the species of Figure 13 (Species 3) and respectfully request substantive examination of Claims 1-9 and 20-23 as all these claims read on the embodiments of Figure 13. Applicants also respectfully submit that Claims 1-5, 9 and 20-23 are generic to both Species 3 and Species 4. Claims 10 and 11 (Species 4) are withdrawn by this amendment pending allowance of a claim that is generic to Species 3 and Species 4. Claims 12-19 are canceled to expedite prosecution in this matter.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request initial examination of Claims 1-9 and 20-23 and allowance of all the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

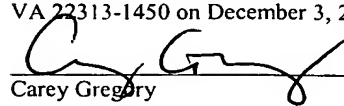


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 3, 2004.



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